Amendments to the Claims

The "Listing of Claims" replaces all prior versions of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A cosmetic preparation comprising a compound of the formula (I):

$$R_1$$
 R_2
 R_3
 R_4
 R_5
 R_6
 R_7
 R_6
 R_7
 R_6
 R_7
 R_8
 R_8
 R_7
 R_8
 R_8
 R_7
 R_8

wherein each of R_1 - R_{12} is independently hydrogen or a linear C_{1-20} alkyl group each of A_1 and A_2 is a 1, 2 or 3 ring carbon atom wherein A_1 is substituted by R_9 and R_{10} and A_2 is substituted by R_{11} and R_{12} ; and wherein at least one of R_1 - R_{12} is a linear alkyl group having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, wherein the compound is incorporated into a cosmetic preparation.

2. (Previously Presented) The cosmetic preparation of claim 1 wherein the compound of formula I is a hexamethyl dicyclopentane of the formula (III):

3. (Previously Presented) The cosmetic preparation of claim 1 wherein the compound

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of formula I is a hexamethyl dicyclohexane of the formula (IV):

- 4. (Currently Amended) The composition cosmetic preparation of claim 1 wherein the amount of the compound of formula (I) in the composition preparation is from 0.1% to 50% by weight.
- 5. (Currently Amended) The composition cosmetic preparation of claim 1 wherein the amount of the compound of formula (I) in the composition preparation is from 0.1% to 30% by weight.
- 6. (Withdrawn) A compound of the formula (I):

$$R_1$$
 R_2
 R_3
 R_4
 R_5
 R_6
 R_6
 R_6
 R_7
 R_6
 R_7
 R_6

wherein each of R_1 - R_{12} is independently hydrogen or a linear C_{1-20} alkyl group each of A_1 and A_2 is a 1, 2 or 3 ring carbon atom wherein A_1 is substituted by R_9 and R_{10} and A_2 is substituted by R_{11} and R_{12} ; and wherein at least one of R_1 - R_{12} is a linear alkyl group having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms.

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7. (Withdrawn) The compound of claim 6 wherein each of the ring structures is a cyclopentane ring or a cyclohexane ring.

8. (Withdrawn) A process for producing a compound of claim 6 comprising the steps of: (a) reacting a cycloalkanone of the formula (II):

wherein each of R_{13} - R_{18} is independently hydrogen or a linear C_{1-20} alkyl group; A is a 1, 2 or 3 ring carbon atom substituted by R_{17} and R_{18} with a base to form an aldol condensation product; (b) forming a neutralised product by contacting the aldol condensation with acid; (3) hydrogenating the neutralised product.

9. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 8 wherein the cycloalkanone is 2,2,4-trimethylcyclopentanone or 2,2,4-trimethylcyclohexanone.

10-12. (Cancelled).

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13. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of the formula (I):

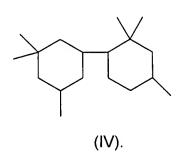
$$R_1$$
 R_2
 R_3
 R_4
 R_5
 R_6
 R_7
 R_6
 R_7
 R_6
 R_7

wherein each of R_1 - R_{12} is independently hydrogen or a linear C_{1-20} alkyl group each of A_1 and A_2 is a 1, 2 or 3 ring carbon atom wherein A_1 is substituted by R_9 and R_{10} and A_2 is substituted by R_{11} and R_{12} ; and wherein at least one of R_1 - R_{12} is a linear alkyl group having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms, wherein the compound is incorporated into a pharmaceutical composition.

14. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13, wherein the compound of formula I is a hexamethyl dicyclopentane of the formula (III):

15. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13, wherein the compound of formula I is a hexamethyl dicyclohexane of the formula (IV):

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- 16. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13, wherein the amount of the compound of formula (I) in the composition is from 0.1% to 50% by weight.
- 17. (New) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13, wherein the amount of the compound of formula (I) in the composition is from 0.1% to 30% by weight.